



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

Town Council Committee of the Whole

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mayor Streeter.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro and Councilor Sheets

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger and Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.

3. NEW BUSINESS

2009-0248

FYE 2011 Budget

Discussed

Director of Planning and Development Services Michael Murphy gave an overview of his proposed FYE2011 budget. He stated that 93.3% of his budget consists of employee related expenses and 6.7% is related to operations. He has 17 full time employees, 4 of which are clerical support staff. He described in detail projects that the Planning Department is currently working on and presented an extensive list of future projects. He explained that in order to achieve a 0% (\$7,400) increase for this year's budget, he would need to reduce his overtime account by half and eliminate about \$2,000 from his office supplies account. He stated that in order to achieve a -5% (\$70,000) budget he would have to look at personnel reductions.

Councilor Watson asked questions about the delay with the Thomas Road Bikeway. Mr. Murphy explained that there have been some delays due to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permits and that he has scheduled meetings with DEP later this month.

Councilor Flax questioned the need for four clerical positions. Mr. Murphy explained all the support that his staff provides to Town boards and commissions in addition to the work they do for the Office of Planning and Development.

2010-0021

Labor Negotiations (2010 Standing Referral)

A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Watson, to enter into Executive Session at 7:06 p.m. to discuss Labor Negotiations.

The motion carried unanimously

Discussed

The executive session concluded at 7:50 p.m. The Committee of the Whole recessed for the Town Council meeting and reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, to recommend a resolution authorizing amendments to the agreement providing pensions for members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton Code of Ordinances, Division 2 - Retirement System of Chapter 2 - Administration of Article IV - Officer and Employees contains the following section:

Sec. 2-76 Amendments

Upon recommendation of the town manager retirement benefits for employees of the town covered by this division may be increased by resolution of the Town Council.

WHEREAS, the Town Manager recommends amendments to the Agreement Providing for Pensions for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association as set forth in the attached 2010 Retirement Incentive Program Description for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association/United Electrical Local 222/Connecticut Independent Labor Union Local 62, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, these amendments do not apply to members of the recently formed Groton Telecommunicators Association, whose pension benefits are still otherwise governed by the Agreement Providing for Pensions for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has considered the recommendation of the Town Manager and the cost estimates provided by the Town's actuaries regarding the 2010 Retirement Incentive Program Description for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association/United Electrical Local 222/Connecticut Independent Labor Union Local 62, Inc., it is hereby

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the recommendation of the Town Manager, the Agreement Providing for Pensions for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association is amended as set forth in the attached 2010 Retirement Incentive Program Description for Members of the Groton Municipal Employees Association/United Electrical Local 222/Connecticut Independent Labor Union Local 62, Inc.

The motion carried unanimously

4. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Watson and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*